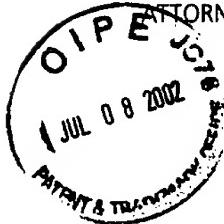


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Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Re: U.S. Utility Patent Application
Appl. No. 09/720,086; 102(e); July 13, 2001
For: *De Novo DNA Cytosine Methyltransferase Genes, Polypeptides and Uses Thereof*
Inventors: Li *et al.*
Our Ref: 0609.4560002/JAG/KRM

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for appropriate action are the following documents:

1. Status Inquiry Letter; and
2. One (1) return postcard.

It is respectfully requested that the attached postcard be stamped with the date of filing of these documents, and that it be returned to our courier. In the event that extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned.

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.

Karen R. Markowicz
Karen R. Markowicz
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KRM/DJN:drb
Enclosures

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